Washington Tuesday 13th Augt 1850

James C Booth Esq
Philadelphia

Dear Sir

I wrote to you on the 9th inst addressed to you at Phila supposing you would be there on Monday. Yesterday I recd a letter from my son Campbell requesting me not to delay the application about your invention for refining Gold &c &c so I sat down at once yesterday & to day have finished such a letter as I thought it would be best should be sent to the Secy of the Treasury. I now enclose a copy of it for your inspection. This morning I enquired of you per Telegraph whether I should have your application referred to the Director of the Mint at Phila & since then I have ascertained from the law that that is the indispensable course. I have not recd your answer to my Telegraphic dispatch & hence I conclude you have either not got to Phila or not got at your accustomed place of business. I shall now await your answer before I send my letter to the Secy. You had better read the act of Congress of the 18 Jany 1837 to apprise yourself of what is the law about this matter. If the Director chooses to reduce the rate of Seigneurage to 2½ cts per oz which can only be done as you think by adopting your plan, then it only requires the "concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury" to put your method into operation and keep it there until some lower charge shall justify a change. You will see from this that the first and most material step is to ascertain whether the Director will report favorably upon your offer. Indeed it is not necessary that a petition should be presented to the Secretary, the reduction of the rate at the voluntary or mere motion of the Director will of so reduced by the Secretary bring your invention into use directly & without any further trouble whatever

If the Director is disposed to adopt your plan & yet does not like to do so without some initiatory steps by the Treasury Dept — then we must try to get the Dept to give the order for his Report upon the letter which I have drawn up.

Respy
Your obt
Henry M Morfit

1838